The FREEMASON AND FEZ.

IN THE INTEREST OF MASONRY, THE MYSTIC SHRINE AND THE ORDER OF ISIS

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, 216 S. 6th St., Editor.

VOLUME IX. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, SEPTEMBER, 1901. No. 9

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THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

The grand triennial conclave of Knights Templar at Louisville, Ky., was in all particulars a success this year. Iowa went 250 strong, and had a delightful time. The K. T. Band of Newton accompanied the Grand Commander and his escort. Headquarters in Chicago for Sunday, August 25, were at the Palmer House. At Louisville the Templars then present attended services in the Broadway Methodist Church. The sermon was by Grand Prelate Coxe. Monday evening a reception was tendered to the Grand Encampment and their ladies by the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies of Kentucky. Grand Commander Jefferson welcomed the guests, and Grand Master Lloyd responded.

Tuesday saw a computed host of 30,000 plumed Knights in line, and it can be said to the credit of Grand Marshal Leathers, that he set an example of promptness that was commendable.

The Grand Master was escorted by the Sir Knights of Kentucky.

There were twelve divisions in which the number (1400) from Illinois was the highest. Until Iowans appreciate the meaning of the triennial their division will be small or merged with others.

The Columbia Commandery, No. 2, of Washington, was marked by the immense crowd of witnesses from the fact that Rear Admiral Schley is a fratre thereof. The following high tribute was paid to him by Judge Henry S. Barker, acting as the representative of the Governor:

"The honor of Sir Knight Schley and the honor of the country are on trial," he went on. "It is the hope and wish, it should be the effort of all true Knights, that their brother should be cleansed from the insinuations of the slanderers and hirelings who are trying to steal from his brow his laurels.

"Through the vigilance of Admiral Schley a glorious victory was won at Santiago. Let us all stand together and see that another glorious victory is now won for him and for our order, of which he is one of the greatest.

"I know that when our beloved country was in peril, when he with matchless skill and undaunted courage tracked the enemy across the pathless seas and locked him safely in the harbor of Santiago, men gratefully called him 'Sly,' but when the enemy dashed again into the ocean to fight his way to home and safety, when there was flashed from the bridge of the Brooklyn those words of awful carnage which swept Cervera from the sea, when our plumed Knight stood matchless amid the wreck and ruin of Spain's second armada, then every patriotic tongue called him 'Slay.'

"Today he and our country's honor are again pawn to fate. God grant to her and him another victory."

The Grand Master's and other reports showed that from July 1, 1900, to July 1, 1901, the Order has grown 114,540 to 125,-108. The net cash resources of the G. E. are $44,236.

SETTLES MEMBERSHIP QUESTION.

What is known as the dependent membership question precipitated a hot fight at the meeting of the Grand Encampment. It ended in the encampment sustaining the

ruling of Grand Master Lloyd. Briefly, Sir Knight Lloyd holds that to be in good standing a Knight Templar must maintain his standing in both Chapter and Lodge.

The Grand Master read an argument upholding his position, and the matter then went to the committee on jurisprudence. The committee brought in a majority report accepting the Grand Master's stand in the matter, but a minority report also was submitted and hotly advocated on the floor. The two reports were finally submitted to the members of the encampment, 250 of whom were present, and the vote sustained the majority report by a large majority.

The jurisprudence committee also brought in a report sustaining the Grand Master in his position that a Grand Master cannot create a Knight Templar at sight, after the ancient fashion of kings who knighted soldiers on the field of battle. This question has been a mooted one, as there has always been an element favoring the granting of this privilege to the Grand Commander, who would thus be able to honor prominent men in the way universities and colleges confer degrees on distinguished persons.

ASSESSMENT IS RAISED.

The encampment decided to put the assessment of Sir Knights back to five cents per capita a year. At the Pittsburg conclave the rate was reduced to three cents, as the encampment had more money than it knew what to do with.

San Francisco was the only bidder for the 1904 conclave, and carried off the honor without a struggle. Minneapolis put in a bid for the conclave of 1907.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The officers were elected perfunctorily as forecasted, each officer advancing one grade.

H. B. Stoddard, of Bryan, Texas, Grand Master.

George M. Moulton, of Chicago, Deputy Grand Master.

Rev. H. W. Rugg, of Providence, R. I., Grand Generalissimo.

W. B. Mellish, Cincinnati, Captain General.

Joseph A. Locke, Portland, Me., Senior Grand Warden.

Frank H. Thomas, Washington, D. C., Junior Grand Warden.

The only contests were for Junior Grand Warden and Grand Recorder. Interest centered in the fight for Junior Grand Warden, as eventually the holder of this office will become the head of the organization. There were fifteen candidates. Frank H. Thomas, Past Grand Commander of the District of Columbia, was elected on the second ballot.

In the contest for the Grand Recordership W. H. Mayo, of St. Louis, who held the office for six years, was pitted against John A. Gerow, of Detroit. Mr. Mayo led on the first ballot, but lost steadily thereafter, and the office went to the Detroiter on the fifth ballot. H. Wales Lines, of Connecticut, was re-elected Grand Treasurer, practically without opposition.

The installation of the new officers followed. Sir Knight Stoddard, the new Grand Master, was given an enthusiastic reception by the Texas Templars Wednesdap evening.

CURRENT NOTES.

Colorado, No. 1, captured first prize; St. Bernard, Chicago, second; Golden Gate, San Francisco, third, and Hanselman, of Cincinnati, fourth. California Commandery, No. 1, being the only mounted command, had no difficulty in capturing the trophy for the best appearance and drill on horseback. The other contestants were Columbia Commandery, No. 2, of Washington, D. C., and Allegheny, No. 35, of Pittsburg, Calvary, No. 3, of Parkersburg, W. Va., failed to appear at the appointed hour and hence did not compete.

A score of handsome Kentucky belles, acting as sponsors, presented the prizes at 8 p. m. in the Horse Show Building. This over, the contestants and their sponsors led a grand march, after which dancing began. The trophies were of silver and were as follows: First prize—Thirty-four pieces, valued at $3,000. Second prize—Twenty-four pieces, libation set, valued at $2,000. Third prize—Center piece, valued at $1,300. Fourth prize—Two pieces (mounted), valued at $900.

The prize for the mounted drill was a huge silver loving cup, valued at $600.

Iowa had no occasion to feel ashamed of her representation; only it ought to have been thrice as numerous.

Detroit, No. 1, of Michigan, certainly has no superior as a well drilled commandery. They refrained from contesting for a prize, but gave an exhibition drill. Their white fatigue hats were *the* form. Detroits second commandery is a fine one, and Damascus received much attention.

Louisville may be set down as having outdone all past entertainers of the Grand Encampment.

Among the Lodges.

We have to congratulate W. Bro. Hon. Dr. Oronhyatekha, J. P., on his appointment to the office of Consul General of the Republic of Liberia. He left the city on the 28th to visit England on business connected with the Independent Order of Foresters.—*Canadian Craftsman.*

While at Montrose last month we heard of work in the lodge there and had a few minutes visit with Bro. Washington Galland, one of the grand old men in Masonry there.

Burlington Masonry is of the stable kind that remains with "due bounds," neither greatly excited nor ever cast down; yet ever alert.

At Ft. Madison we heard good tidings of the craft, and good prospects of more to follow.

A good fashion in the "old rules of the Grand Lodge at York, 1725," was that "an hour shall be set apart to talk Masonry."

The "Gran Dieta" of Mexico has voluntarily dissolved. Now we may see the institution of Grand Lodges in its several states, each seeking recognition, and the cause of another lot of "correspondence."

On July 17, 1901, the Duke of Connaught was installed Grand Master of England vice King Edward VII, resigned.

From the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba we receive the following:

WARNING!

To all Grand Lodges and other Regular Governing Bodies of Free and Accepted Masons of the World:

The Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba, the only regular and legitimate body of primitive simbolic Masonry existing in this country, and working but the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; sole continuator of the Grand Lodge of Colon, established in 1859 by Masons proceeding from the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Louisiana, such Grand Lodges being the originators of our primitive lodges; in amity with the Mother Grand Lodge of England and with the other Grand Lodges and regular Masonic bodies of the Universe: regrets to call the attention of the Masonic world about a clandestine group recently created in this country by a few spurious lodges formed by spontaneous generation, and which calls itself the Gran Oriente Nacional Cubano.

This group of clandestine Masons, created under the protection of civil laws which have nothing established against illegal Masons, has been formed to interrupt the Masonic peace in the Island of Cuba, exactly as has already been done in Ohio, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania and many other Grand Lodges of Europe and America, ignoring and maliciously trespassing upon principles and laws of the Masonic Fraternity.

The boldness of these unscrupulous supporters of such clandestine body has gone as far as to solicit recognition from foreign Grand Lodges, trying to surprise those brethren, whom they consider misinformed regarding the affairs of Cuban Masonic History.

The so-called Gran Oriente Nacional Cubano is a hybrid and mixed up group of clandestine, androginous Masons, formed into Lodges, Chapters, Consistories and other Scottish Rite bodies. All their lodges being dependent of bodies of from the 4° to the 33° and most of the Masons composing them come from the irregular lodges which existed here in former times under the dependence of several Spanish Grand Orients.

We, therefore, respectfully call the attention of our foreign brethren towards the said Gran Oriente Nacional Cubano to the end that they may not be surprised by such an irregular, spurious assembly of clandestine Masons.

Aurelio Miranda, G. S.

Havana, Cuba, June 30, 1901.

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Published Monthly

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JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor and Publ'r.
216 S. 6th St., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, JUNE, 1901.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGE MEETS.
Dubuque, June 3, 1902.

L. J. BAKER.....Ottumwa.....GRAND MASTER
N. R. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.
General Grand (U. S.,) 1903.
N. B. HYATT.....Webster City.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

ASSEMBLIES, R. & S. M.
General Grand (U. S.,)
A. R. DEWEY.....Washington.....M. P. G. M
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

CONCLAVES K. T.
Grand Encampment, Louisville, Ky., Aug. 27, 1901.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July, 1902.
W. H. NORRIS.....Manchester.....GRAND COMMANDER
J. E. CHERRY.....Creston.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.
General Grand (U. S.) Sept. 24-30, 1901, Detroit, Mich.
Iowa, Oct. 24, 1901, Sioux City.
FREDA OPPENHEIMER Webster City GRAND MATRON
A. J. Small.....Des Moines.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson.....Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.
Imperial Council, San Francisco, Cal., June 1, 1902.
PHIL C. SHAFFER, Philadelphia, Pa., IMP. POTENTATE
Ben. W. Rowell.....Boston, Mass.....Recorder

EL-KAHIR TEMPLE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
B. M. CLEVELAND.....Waterloo.....POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Cedar Rapids.....Recorder
MEETINGS AT HOME:
September 27 October 25 November 22
December 11

A FREE FRATERNAL PARLIAMENT.

Our attendance upon the so-called "Fraternal Congress," at Detroit last month, leads us to voice a sentiment we have long had in mind. From the "oldest institution of its kind" down to the youngest order seeking to ameliorate the sufferings of mankind, there is need of a more thorough knowledge of each other. The lofty may yet glean valuable lessons from the lowly—the "mother of them all" may well take note of the progress of her children and should help them.

To bring about a free fraternal parliament—absolutely voluntary, without making any claims to legislative authority—purely social and fraternal in all its objects, is a work fraught with good to all alike. We would have as many "sections" as there are needs of departments, and to each would we refer the detail discussion, while in the parliament should be presented the ablest efforts of the fraternal bodies of the day. No matter to us whether it materializes in our day or not, we believe in the usefulness and the need of it, and from this we do not except any institution of a fraternal character.

Might we be permitted to inquire—without being in danger of ex-communication—why in the world Grand Masters and Grand Lodges keep see-sawing over the "fraternal relations" so much? Can't some one near the jurisdictions involved give "awful information?"

We often wonder if the Grand Secretaries and Grand Recorders of this jurisdiction realize that we are trying to do a good work for them. We need their official announcements at the first possible moment, and we reach the individuals all the time

---

The Trestle Board, Vol XV, No. 1, newly covered and handsomely made up comes to us from the new management of Bros. Walter N. Brunt and Elmer White, 537 Clay Street, San Francisco.

It is too much prominence to give to any such sect as would do so to advertise their opposition to so great and good an institution as Masonry.

We consider the material gathered for this number of considerable value and of plentiful variety to be worth the cost of this journal to any one.

It will bring sorrow to our Star readers to hear of the death of P. G. P., Bro. N. B. Hyatt, of Webster City, as noted elsewhere.

The Mystic Shrine.

AL KORAN'S WIDOWS' FUND.

In October, 1896, the above "fund" was organized within Al Koran Temple, Cleveland, Ohio. To use Secretary Harris' words: "Its merit as a measure for prompt relief after the visit of the 'Black Camel' need no commendation at this time."

In the five years of its operation it has now over 500 contributors. Has had eighteen deaths in the five years, and has paid $7,571.00 to beneficiaries, or an average of $420.61 to each.

To give an idea of its workings, note the following: $2.50 creates any Noble of Al Koran Temple a member. A sum equal to one ($1) dollar for each subscriber is held in reserve, in case two (2) deaths should occur close together, and the one ($1) dollar, multiplied by the number of members, is paid to the beneficiary of a deceased member immediately notice of death is filed with the Secretary.

At each decease another assessment is made upon the survivors for $1.10 to replenish the fund. The extra ten (10) cents is supposed to cover the cost of assessment and collection.

The lowest amount paid to any beneficiary was $250.00, the first loss paid August 13, 1897. On the death of Noble Martin Clancy, in our city, April 22, 1898, his beneficiary received $275.00, and in 1901 the highest amount has been reached in the payment of $528.00.

It was a grave mistake when El Kahir, in 1897, failed to adopt this same plan—several deaths, and their surroundings have proven that it would *have been a Godsend*—but that regret is too late now. Several of the officers and Nobles of El Kahir Temple, being interested in The Ancient Craftsman of Tyre and Egypt have secured the adoption of practically the same ideas as the "Widows' Fund," and it bids fair to become a wonderful helper to the families of its deceased members. Should any of our readers over fifteen and not over sixty years, care to investigate the plans of this important benefaction, they can address the editor of this journal at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

TEMPLE SALE POSTPONED.

DECISION ON SHRINERS' CONTENTION AWAITED FROM APPELLATE COURT.

The sale of the Medinah Temple Building and the leasehold of the ground it occupies, at the northeast corner of Jackson boulevard and Fifth avenue, which was to have been held in the judicial salesroom of the Real Estate Exchange, was postponed till September 25th. The real reason for the postponement of the sale is said to have been that a decision was desired by the Appellate Court in a case now pending to which Medinah Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and the Medinah Temple Company are parties. In this case the Shriners claim that they have the right to use that part of the building occupied by them one night in each month for ninety-nine years. This claim is contested by the company. In the lower court the case went against the Shriners, whereupon the appeal now pending was taken. The requisite appeal bond has not been filed. The mortgage bonds of the company of $400,000, upon which judgment was entered, were issued in March, 1894, but the issue was not recorded till the following May. In the meantime the agreement between the building company and the Shriners was made, and the issue is whether this agreement runs as a lien against the property.

WHAT PUBLICATION, PRAY?

A Shrine publication says that among the many promoters of the Mystic Shrine in the early days of Europe were Adam Weishaupt, the founder of the Illuminati in Bavaria in 1776; Frederick the Great, Mirabeau, Goethe, Spinoza, Kant, Lord Bacon, Cavour, Mezzini, Garibaldi, Victor Emmanuel and other well-known Freemasons.—*Tyler.*

One hundred and fifty Nobles of Syrian Temple of the Mystic Shrine, left Cincinnati, August 3d, for Niagara Falls and Buffalo in a handsomely appointed and well supplied special train, recently made and will be used for the first time by the Shriners. The special stopped at Middletown, Dayton, Springfield and Columbus. The train made record time to Cleveland, where the whole party took dinner and was given a royal reception by Alkoran Temple. —*Mystic Tie.*

"*The Trestle Board*" of San Francisco, promises the Imperial Council when it comes to that "cosmopolitan metropolis by

the sea," that "the horn of plenty will o'erswamp them with goodness, and they will never more want to leave this real Mecca. Islam Temple will fill the horn."

Noble Erastus C. Knight, of Buffalo, N. Y., has received strong endorsement for mayoralty of his city. Should he be elected (he no doubt will be) he will raise a beard, for he is too distinguished a man to be taken for "us" when he's a Lord Mayor.

The resident Nobles of Newark, N. J., (members of Mecca Temple), have formed a social club. One of the purposes is to properly entertain visiting Nobles. Its a good move, worthy of general imitation.

"Shrine Day" at the Pan-American August 31st, was the breath-taker of the whole show. The "Arabs" were there in profusion, and they had a great time, too.

The officers of El Kahir met in the grove near Cedar Rapids on August 23d for an afternoon picnic and to consult over the best interests of the Temple.

Noble A. B. Kettridge of Sioux Falls, S. D., has been appointed U. S. senator by his governor, and it was a worthy work well bestowed.

From "*The Evening Messenger,*" of Ft. Dodge, Iowa, we gather that Za-Ga-Zig Temple had a lively time there on June 20th.

El Kahir will likely go to Anamosa this month to initiate a good class of novices.

The Royal Arch.

We should have gladly given space to the program for the coming Grand Chapter, but the copy came to us too late for our August number.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST HYATT IS DEAD.

While in the city of Detroit, Mich,, a few days, the accompanying item reached us:

PRESIDING OFFICER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS IN IOWA PASSES AWAY.

WEBSTER CITY, IOWA, August 27.—Ex-Judge Hyatt, prominent in Democratic state politics until the break in 1896, and a leading attorney of the state; also Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Masons of Iowa, is dead

Judge Hyatt is one of the best known men in Masonic circles in the state, having occupied high positions in the various bodies. He was especially active in the Royal Arch Grand Chapter, of which he was Deputy Grand High Priest in 1899-1900, and succeeding to the principal office for the present term. His period of office would have ended with the convention of the grand body at Davenport next week. He was also prominent in the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star, last year being appointed a committee to revise the code for that body.

Through his death the responsibility of the Grand High Priesthood will fall upon Comp. Thomas B. Lacy of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Scottish Rite.

The United States will probably have a distinguished visitor this October in the person of Prince Denitrius Rhodocanakis, of Greece, who contemplates coming to this country to be present at the centennial celebration of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite of this jurisdiction. In his own country the Prince is Supreme Commander of the Scottish Rite Masons.—*Trowel.*

By the death of Ill. Theodore S. Parvin, 33°, Beuren R. Sherman, 33°, becomes the sole Inspector General for Iowa until the next Supreme Council.

The "big class" period has now become of marked importance in the Rite. At Wichita, Kan., April 17, they had 162, during the centennial anniversary.

"Father Crowly" of Oregon, Ill., asserts that "a 32° Mason," is one of Bishop Kozlowsky's followers who are trying to prevent him from saying mass.

Why any Prince of Jerusalem, 32°, should deem a crusade of jealous competition against a so-called "dead" Consistory is past our comprehension of the vows.

The reunions of the bodies of the Rite should be made great Masonic functions, not all for display, but mostly to strengthen the fraternal bonds as between such princely brothers.

The Council.

The Grand Council met this year on September 4th at Davenport.

The year of our Lord 1901 should see a revival in this branch of the Masonic system.

Comp. Jno. W. Fitzmaurice, in the *Constellation,* thinks the "Super Excellent Degree" in the Council system should be reformed and the sublime features retained, while the less impressive things should be obliterated. How?

Commanderies.

THOMAS R. ERCANBRACK.

Many of us were greatly surprised to receive word that on Aug. 4, 1901, this well-known Brother had passed away at Dubuque, Iowa, where he was stricken with apoplexy. His wife was by his bedside when he died. He was a native of Fulton county, New York, born August 19, 1835. He came to Iowa about 1867. He held the offices of Grand Commander, Grand High Priest and Grand Patron, as well as many official distinctions in the subordinate bodies. He was a Scottish Rite Mason and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

His funeral was held at Anamosa, Aug. 8th in charge of the Knights Templar. Many visitors were present from near and far, and all the honors were paid the departed Fratre.

Sir Knight Wm. Flanagan of this city, and not the Templar Park Trustees, will be in charge of the rooms next year.

By the death of Sir Knight Ercanbrack a vacancy occurs in the Board of Templar Park Trustees. Who the appointee is we have not yet been informed.

Sir Knight Tom Adamson of LeMars, another Trustee, has been seriously ill, but at last report was much improved. We'd miss "Tom" if he were out of the stir of life.

The Eastern Star.

To Members of the Order of the Eastern Star:

Arrangements have been made with the Wabash railroad for the transportation of the delegates and their friends to the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, to be held at Detroit, Mich., Sept. 24-27, 1901.

The Wabash railroad will provide a special free reclining chair car for our exclusive use, leaving Chicago on the Continental Limited, 11:00 a. m., Monday, September 23. A dining car is attached to this train at noon, serving luncheon and dinner through to Detroit. This train leaves Chicago from Dearborn Station, corner Dearborn and Polk streets, and reaches Detroit at 7:50 p. m., in time to attend the reception of Mrs. Hattie E. Ewing, M. W., Grand Matron, at the Cadillac Hotel, Parlor D, who, with her associate officers, will be pleased to meet the members of the Order.

A rate of a fare and one-third, on the certificate plan, has been secured. This makes the round trip rate from Chicago $10.35. When purchasing your ticket *do not forget to ask the ticket agent for a certificate.*

If through tickets are purchased from points west of Chicago, ask the selling agent for tickets from Chicago to Detroit via the Wabash railroad.

Tickets may be purchased from September 19th to 26th, and will be good to leave Detroit returning until October 1, inclusive.

Delegetes residing west of Chicago should arrange to reach this city on Monday morning trains in order to join the party.

It is earnestly desired that those who can accompany us should advise me as early as possible so that arrangements can be made for additional chair cars, if necessary. In writing please state how many chairs you wish reserved.

LORRAINE J. PITKIN,
R. W. Grand Secretary.
2456 Kenmore Ave , Chicago.

GRAND CHAPTER.

Little more than a month remains before the annual gathering of this important auxiliary of Masonry will convene in Sioux City. It will be an important meeting. It is becoming an important body, and one wielding an increasingly good influence. It will pay to continue along conservative lines and within Masonic usages when the light is not clear. Our Grand Matron has made for herself an enviable record—in every way complimentary to her many virtues—and one that has increased he already good stock of favor among us. Some will be missing and some held back by sad experiences will look longingly toward Sioux City in the month of October.

When we were in Ft. Madison, August 21st, if the rehearsal for the "Musical," to be given by the local Chapter, was significant of anything, they must have given their audience a treat. That's the working reputation of the Stars at the "Fort."

At Montrose it was too hot and our time was too short for us to call on any of the membership, but Brother Galland reported them all alive.

We heard no tidings from the new chapter at Burlington, but presume they, too, are alive and doing well.

Fraternities.

THE FRATERNAL CONGRESS.

This voluntary asscciation of more than sixty fraternal beneficiary orders this year held its annual meeting in the city of Detroit, Mich., August 27-30, 1901. The press and medical sections held meetings on Monday (26), and the Congress proper met on Tuesday morning at ten. The business was routine, being the reports on credentials and of the President. The sessions were held in the Cadillac Hotel rooms, and every seat of the Oriental room was occupied by representatives of the allied orders.

Various important papers were read on Tuesday, and on Wednesday a free excursion was given to Star Island, where lunch was served. The boat Idlewild dropped many of the visitors at Belle Isle, while others came into the city. Thursday and Friday were the "busy days."

The annual report of the committee on statistics presented by Chairman D. P. Markey showed that the average cost of protection last year in the orders connected with the congress was $9.74 per $1,000. The lapse rate was about 7 per cent greater than during the previous year, the total number of lapses last year being 243,946.

"The orders here represented paid for management expenses last year $4,628,581, or at the rate of $1.05 per $1,000 of the average protection in force," reads the report. "On a per capita basis it cost $1.71. This is an increase of 8 cents per $1,000, and 13 cents per capita over that of 1899, and indicates the tendency to greater expense of management incident to, if not made absolutely necessary, by competition which the orders must now meet.

"The occasional failure of the reorganization of an order that has been a member of this congress does not now create any great commotion, or disturb to any great extent the confidence of our members. There is always a good and sufficient reason for such conditions, easily and readily ascertained. Thus far every order that has met with reverses, has been able to trace them to the timidity of leaders or to the lack of knowledge and hence timely appreciation of their own situation on the part of the membership.

"The number of new members admitted to the orders represented in this congress in the year of 1900 was 595,064, making their total membership at the close of the year, 3,142,519. Of this number 286,745 were social members. The net gain in benefit members for the year was 327,513.

"The protection in force at the end of the year was $4,585,579,982, a net increase for the year of $401,952,932, while the amount represented by the new certificates was $78,179,704.

"The orders reporting for 1900 show 23,605 deaths, or a death rate of 8.76 per 1,000, based on the average membership for the year, as compared with 8.87 for the previous year."

Around the proposition to require all constituent orders of the "Congress" *to put in operation the rates conforming to the Congress Tables on or before January 1, 1905*, is where centered all the contest of interest during the Congress. Without a shadow of vested authority to do so, yet with the sympathy of the "departments" in the states behind it, even the "Associated Fraternities" can't foretell what will be the outcome. The Modern Woodmen will struggle with their internal surroundings as long as they can, then when hauled over, will come into camp loudly acclaiming their good intentions all the while.

The "Old Standard" A. O. U. W. has the proud distinction of hearing each and every contestant acknowledge her method as the only right and safe one, yet, for some reason, they fear to follow them.

This "congress" idea is all right, but not broad enough to cover what it ought.

There seems to be blood on the Maccabeean moon since we learn that the Great Tent of Michigan—Major Boynton Great Commander—will go into other states for business, while the Supreme Tent—the smooth politician, D. P. Markey, Supreme Commander—will break into Michigan. One or both orders should change their name. Yet who can tell whether this unseemly contest may not uncover the truth and make the crooked things straight?

Ths following officers were elected:

President—H. A. Warner, Topeka, Kan.

Vice-President—Jos. S. Langfitt, of Pittsburg, Pa.

[Here an effort was made to inject a provision for a second vice president, who should be a woman, and Miss Bina West of the Maccabees was the woman, but it failed.]

Secretary-Treasurer—M. W. Sackett, of Meadville, Pa.

Of course the Grand Old Man—a "Workman"—received every vote of the Congress for the position.

Denver was chosen as the place of meeting for 1902.

PYTHIANS SUE FORMER OFFICIAL.

Civil suits for the recovery of $13,000, alleged to have been withdrawn from the funds of the Endowment Rank of the Knights of Pythias have been begun in the circuit court by the Supreme Lodge of the order against John A. Hinsey, former president of the board of control, and Henry B. Stolte, former secretary of the same body.

There is "thunder" in the air among the fraternities these days. Let certificate holders scan carefully what they are paying for and keep only the best.

The Ancient Craftsmen of Tyre and Egypt has been conferring its degrees in this country since 1895, and lately added to its fraternal work a funeral benefit of a nominal amount. The Supreme Council will consider a set of tables this fall and will incorporate to sell fraternal indemnity with participating features.

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